

# State-by-State Guide to Transportation Assistance

http://bulletin.aarp.org/yourworld/gettingaround/articles/state-by-state guide.html

- Ticket to Ride
- Databank USA: Where the Boomers Are
- Myth Buster: More Bunk About Better Gas Mileage
- States Find Ways to Aid Older Drivers

Having access to transportation can impact the quality of life for older Americans; without it, the ability to live independently is jeopardized. More than 6,000 transit systems nationwide provide some form of service to older riders, from reduced fares to expanded use of low-floor vehicles to personalized training sessions to help older riders get where they need to go. But transportation assistance is not always well advertised or organized into comprehensive directories. *AARP Bulletin Online* has compiled a state-by-state list of local transportation options to help you quickly access transportation in your community.

Senior transportation programs make it possible for individuals who do not drive and cannot use public transportation to obtain rides for essential trips, such as medical appointments, business errands, shopping and other activities. Transportation services vary among communities and may be "fixed route" (i.e., similar to a bus route, with scheduled stops and routes) or "demand response" (i.e., like taxi service, providing on-demand, door-to-door service). Services may be provided by urban and rural transit systems, human service organizations, churches and other providers.

Transportation services may include dial-a-ride, bus tokens and/or transit passes for fixed-route scheduled services, taxi vouchers and mileage reimbursement to volunteers or program participants.

When seeking transportation assistance, make sure you inquire about fees, availability and accessibility of such options, whether through public or private organizations.

Use the drop-down menu below or scroll down this page to find links to and details about state-specific information about transportation assistance in your state and community:

The Alabama Department of Senior Services' <u>Elder Connect tool</u> connects older Alabamans to a host of transportation assistance programs in their local communities. Simply select your county and "Transportation Assistance" from the pull-down menu, and you can get instant contact information about a variety of transportation resources in your area. Or call (800) AGELINE (800-243-5463).

Click here for information on public transportation options in specific cities and counties:

- <u>Montgomery</u>. Among other things, you'll find information on <u>senior fares</u> and <u>paratransit</u> services.
- Dothan and Houston County
- Gadsden
- Huntsville

#### Alaska

<u>Click here for information</u> on Alaska's Centers for Independent Living or Aging and Disability Resource Centers. <u>The Catholic Community Service's</u> Senior and Caregiver Resource Center is a resource for Alaska's caregivers and will assist with any elder caregiving need, including transportation. Also, the <u>Alaska Commission on Aging</u> has links to other programs and agencies.

The Alaska Community Transit Program's Coordinated Community Transportation Web page provides <u>links to public transportation programs in key areas of the state</u>. Scroll to the bottom of the page to click on the region you are interested in, or call (907) 465-8958. Or go directly to a city's or region's overview of local transportation options:

- Municipality of Anchorage People Mover
- Fairbanks North Star Borough
- City and Borough of Juneau Capital Transit
- Matsu Community Transit (MASCOT)
- Central Area Rural Transit System (CARTS)
- Ketchikan Gateway Borough Transit System
- Kodiak Area Transit System (KATS)
- Center for Community (Sitka)

Meanwhile, <u>Alaska Direct Bus Line</u>, (800) 770-6652, runs to different cities and towns in Alaska throughout the year. The <u>Alaska Marine Highway System</u> operates ferries between 33 Alaska communities and Bellingham, Wash., and Prince Rupert, B.C.

#### Arizona

Start by finding an Area Agency on Aging office near you. These local agencies can direct you to transportation listed and other pertinent services in your community. Transportation services are intended to help persons get around the community. A number of communities may offer door-to-door transportation services for older persons such as vans or minibuses that accommodate wheelchairs, walkers and other devices. Transportation may be provided to and from the doctor's office or other medical services, community facilities and other services. Help is also available in some communities in the form of escort services and shopping assistance.

To find out more about home and community living supports, contact the <u>Division of Aging and Community Services/Aging and Adult Administration at</u> (602) 542-4446.

The <u>Arizona Transit Association</u>, a nonprofit statewide organization dedicated to improving transportation throughout Arizona, provides a page linking visitors to local public transportation options in each Arizona county.

Meanwhile, an overview of Arizona's Department of Transportation's (ADOT) grant assistance program for agencies serving elderly (60+ years) and/or persons with disabilities and a map of service locations is available here.

Access public transportation assistance information on some of Arizona's systems by clicking on:

- Phoenix
- Tucson
- Flagstaff
- Other populated areas of Arizona

Meanwhile, visit ADOT's grant assistance program for local communities serving the general public (including but not specializing in elderly/disabled) with transit. This site contains links to public transportation in Arizona's smaller cities and rural areas, including Coolidge, the Navajo Nation, Cottonwood, Sedona, and Kingman.

#### Arkansas

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community.

Another handy resource to find transportation services in your area is <u>AR GetCare</u>. Simply select your county and "Transportation Assistance" from the pull-down menu, and you can get instant contact information for a variety of transportation resources in your area. Or call (501) 682-8521.

Also, the Department of Health & Human Services provides links to <u>transportation assistance for those on Medicaid</u>, (800) 482-1141, and in transitional employment, (800) 482-8988.

To find public transportation options in your community, along with specific programs for elderly and disabled residents, check out the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department's <u>Public Transportation Directory (PDF)</u>. Scroll to pages 21-27 to find out about paratransit options by community. The department's main number is (510) 569-2000.

Also, visit the <u>Central Arkansas Transit Authority's website</u> to find out options in one of the state's larger transit systems. Visit the <u>Federal Transit Administration</u> to find out about other regional transit systems.

# California

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. You can also locate the AAA in your area by calling (800) 510-2020.

Two good resources to check out for transportation options in your community include the <u>California Transit Association's</u> links to local transit authorities throughout the state and the <u>Federal Transit Administration's California page</u>. If you have not found suitable options on those links, visit here.

For a list of small, rural and specialized transit providers, visit the <u>member link page</u> of the California Association for Coordinated Transportation.

Meanwhile, visit the following regional transit system sites:

## **Los Angeles-Orange Counties**

- Access
- Antelope Valley TA
- City of L.A. DOT and the city's senior program Cityride
- Foothill Transit
- Gardena MBL

- Glendale Beeline
- L.A. Co. MTA
- Long Beach Transit
- Metrolink
- Montebello Dial-A-Ride
- Orange County TA
- Santa Clarita Transit
- Santa Monica Big Blue Bus

#### San Francisco-Oakland

- AC Transit
- Caltrain
- Central Contra Costa TA
- Golden Gate Transit
- Livermore-Amador Valley Paratransit
- San Francisco BART
- San Francisco Muni
- San Mateo County TD
- Tri-Delta Transit
- Vallejo Transit

#### Sacramento

- Sacramento Regional Transit District
- <u>Paratransit Inc.</u> is a private nonprofit corporation dedicated to providing transportation services to individuals with disabilities, the elderly and related agencies throughout the Sacramento County area.

#### Colorado

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Or contact the State Unit on Aging at (303) 866-2800.

Another handy resource, <u>Getting There</u>, offers a Resource Guide to Transit Services for Older Adults in metropolitan Denver, Boulder and other areas.

The <u>Colorado Department of Transportation's</u> Web tool will help you find local transportation options. Select your city and mode of transportation, and the tool gives you several options. The Denver metro area <u>Seniors' Resources Center</u> provides rides to older adults and persons of all ages with disabilities who live in Jefferson, Denver, Adams, Gilpin, Clear Creek and Park

list of Colorado transit age	1	oor, demand-response

#### Connecticut

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Or call (800) 994-9422 to find out about transportation options in your locality.

The <u>Connecticut Department of Transportation</u> offers a handy public transit and ride-sharing resource that puts you in contact with public transportation systems. The state's bus and rail transportation system consists of two commuter rail lines, three branch lines, eight CTTRANSIT bus divisions and 14 active transit districts. Links to complementary paratransit services are also available. Or call the department's Bureau of Transportation at (860) 594-2800.

#### Delaware

The state's Department of Health & Social Services offers a <u>Guide to Services for Older Delawareans</u> that can be accessed as a PDF file. Scroll down to pages 166-171 for a wide range of public and private transportation options for older residents and those with disabilities. Or call the Division of Services for Aging and Adults With Physical Disabilities at (800) 223-9074. Or if you qualify for medical transportation benefits, visit here.

Delaware's <u>DART First State public transit system</u> operates the <u>SCAT Senior Citizens Taxi program</u>, which provides a 50% discount on taxi fares for senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Anyone 65 or older, or any person with a physical or mental disability which prevents operating a motor vehicle may be eligible to use SCAT. A SCAT ticket book valued at \$10 can be purchased for \$5 at any DART Transportation Store. The tickets are used to pay the metered taxi fare. Ticket sales outlets are listed on the website, or call (800) 355-8080 to find locations near you.

From the DART First State home page, you can also access paratransit services and RideShare information

DART's <u>Transportation Provider Directory</u> highlights public and private transportation options in Delaware and nearby states.

#### **District of Columbia**

The district offers several transportation options for older residents:

- <u>Call 'N' Ride Transportation Program</u> provides a discount door-to-door taxicab transportation service for senior citizens, age 60 and over. Participants contact the <u>lead agency</u> serving their ward to obtain coupons for the taxi ride at a reduced cost. Seniors may use the coupons for any transportation purpose. The amount of the discount is based on a sliding fee scale. Call (202) 635-3970.
- Washington Elderly Handicapped Transportation Services provides basic transportation for seniors who cannot access traditional transportation systems. Arrangements are made to transport elderly persons to essential medical appointments, dialysis sessions, appointments with public benefits agencies (for Medicaid, Medicare, Food Stamps, SSI, Social Security), banking institutions, etc. Contact your lead agency (link listed above) or the transportation services program at (202) 635-8866.
- The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority provides an Elderly & Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee Web page that allows individuals to link (see links on left under "Accessibility") to relevant fare, accessibility and paratransit information. Or call the Authority at (202) 637-7000.

#### Florida

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can also direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community:

• The Florida Department of Elder Affairs offers an <u>Elder Services Directory</u>. Simply click on the map that represents your area of the state, and select your county and transportation assistance from the pull-down menu, then hit Submit. You get instant

- contact information about a variety of public and private transportation resources in your community. Or call the department at (850) 414-2000.
- The state Department of Transportation's <u>Florida Commission for the Transportation-Disadvantaged</u> offers cost-effective transportation services for transportation-disadvantaged persons in all 67 Florida counties. Call the commission at (850) 410-5700.
- The <u>Florida Association of Coordinated Transportation Systems Inc.</u> offers a link to access most of the 67 counties served by Coordinated Transportation Systems. Hundreds of carriers in the system offer safe, cost-effective transportation to the elderly, disabled and other persons who cannot purchase or provide their own transportation.

Meanwhile, to link to a local public transit authority in your part of the state, <u>click here</u> .	

# Georgia

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Or call the Division on Aging Services at (404) 657-5258.

• The Georgia Department of Transportation's <u>Transit Programs</u> offer information about urban and rural public transportation programs, and access to each of the state's local transit systems.

Meanwhile, the <u>Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA)</u> has a page for <u>senior citizens and persons with disabilities</u> with information about special fares and programs.

#### Hawaii

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Or contact the state's Executive Office on Aging at (808) 586-0100. The Office's <u>Kupuna Care</u> program also offers assisted transportation to older residents who cannot use regular transportation services.

To locate a local public i	transportation provider in your area, <u>click here</u> .

#### Idaho

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Or call the Idaho Commission on Aging toll-free at (877) 471-2777.

Meanwhile, check out the following links to Idaho's primary county public transportation providers:

- Ada and Canyon Counties: <u>valleyride.org</u>, <u>commuteride.com</u> and <u>treasure valley transit.com</u>
- Bannock County: Pocatello Regional Transit

#### Illinois

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. Click on the county that interests you to find contact information for the AAA in your area. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Also, call the Illinois Department on Aging's Senior Help Line at (800) 252-8966.

- The <u>Illinois Public Transportation Association</u> lists contact information for public and private transit systems and social services organizations involved in transportation.
- The Illinois Department of Transportation's <u>Getting Around Illinois website</u> offers links to Chicago-area public transportation systems.

• For information on the Chicago Transit Authority's accessible services and programs for seniors, the disabled and others, <u>click here</u> .
Meanwhile, <u>click here</u> to find information about other large transit systems in Illinois.
Indiana
Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u> . These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community.
• The <u>Indiana Transportation Association's website</u> includes links to urban and rural transit providers.
Meanwhile, visit the following sites for information on transit systems in these areas+:
<ul> <li>Indianapolis</li> <li>Bloomington</li> <li>Northern Indiana/Chicago area</li> <li>Lafayette</li> </ul>
Information on rural transit options in Indiana is <u>available here</u> .
Iowa
Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u> . Click on your county to find contact information for the AAA in your area. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community.
<ul> <li>The Iowa Association of Area Agencies on Aging offers the <u>Iowa Family Caregiver</u> searchable website to find local services for residents age 60 and older. The <u>searchable</u> guide includes public and volunteer transportation resources.</li> <li>To quickly link to public transportation options in your community, visit Iowa's <u>Office of Public Transit site</u>. The office also has a link to <u>intercity transit options</u> in Iowa. <u>The Iowa Public Transit Association</u> also has a comprehensive list of transportation resources.</li> <li>Visit <u>sioux-city.org</u> to find out about <u>Sioux City's</u> transit system.</li> </ul>

#### Kansas

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. Search by your county or town to find contact information for the AAA in your area. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community.

• <u>Kansas Transit Provider Directory</u> offers an interactive map that links visitors to transit provider agencies throughout the state. Click on any county on the map to find a list of transit agencies and options in that area. Or call the Kansas University Transportation Center at (785) 864-5655.

# Kentucky

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Seniors may also be able to find human services-related transportation options at the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services' <u>Department for Community Based Services</u>.

• <u>The Kentucky Public Transit Association</u> offers links to most transit systems throughout the state.

Meanwhile, the state Transportation Cabinet has links to <u>human-services delivery programs</u> that are of interest to seniors on Medicaid or eligible for certain forms of state assistance. The state <u>Office of Transportation Delivery</u> has general information about transportation programs for the elderly and disabled and for those living in rural areas.

#### Louisiana

Start by finding an Area Agency on Aging office near you. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. The Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs can be reached at (225) 342-7100. A listing of local councils on aging can be found <a href="here">here.</a> Louisiana Answers.com is a useful resource for older adults. Highlight your parish and scroll down on the service categories to find transportation, then hit Search to find resources in your area.

• Louisiana's Office of Transportation and Development has a <u>transit resource guide</u> with an interactive map. Click on your parish to find out about transportation options in your community.

#### Maine

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Meanwhile, check out the <u>social services transportation provider</u> in your region. Buses, vans, or individual drivers can help you get to doctors' offices, clinics and pharmacies in most areas of the state. Advance notice is required for some of these arrangements.

- ITN America is a private transportation resource started in Portland, Maine, and is seen as a model of dignified transportation for seniors in other communities. ITN service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for seniors and disabled residents. ITN service is provided in private automobiles, by paid or volunteer drivers, and provides door-to-door service, with help provided for packages and other items. Membership in the ITN is necessary to receive service.
- Explore Maine has information on travel by buses, ferries, trains, cars and other options. The site includes a Web page where visitors can access information on 16 fixed-route transit systems that provide regularly scheduled bus service in Maine. The state's larger cities offer frequent service on a variety of routes, serving local commuters, shoppers, senior citizens, persons with disabilities and others. Another link provides information on demand-response or door-to-door services. Most require a one- or two-day advance reservation, and many include trained volunteer drivers.

# Maryland

Maryland's Department on Aging offers information on <u>Local Transportation Services and Resources for Senior Adults</u> for many counties in the state. Also, visit the department's site for <u>Senior Information and Assistance offices</u> to help you with transportation and other service options in your area. For more information, call the department at (410) 767-1100 or toll-free at (800) 243-3425.

• <u>Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)</u> oversees public bus, rail, metro (subway), commuter train and other services in the state. MTA offerings include a <u>Senior Fare Program</u>, which lets seniors ride for one third to one half the cost of normal fares on

public transportation. Other special MTA fare programs and services, including curb-to-curb service for those with restricted mobility, are available <u>here</u>.

Meanwhile, if you're trying to find out more about your local transit system, <u>click here</u> for links to locally operated transit systems throughout the state. For more information, call MTA's Transit Information Call Center at (410)-539-5000 or toll-free at (866) RIDE-MTA.

#### Massachusetts

To find an Area Agency on Aging office near you, visit the <u>Massachusetts Office of Elder Affairs website</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community.

• Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) offers significantly reduced fares for seniors on MBTA buses, trains, rapid transit, trackless trolleys, commuter rail and boats. In order to be eligible, resident age 65 and older must first obtain an MBTA Senior Citizen Photo ID. Check out <a href="mailto:the website">the website</a>, or contact the Office of Transportation Access at (617) 222-5438, (617) 222-5854 (TTY), or (800) 543-8287 to learn more about obtaining the ID. The Authority's Web page for senior citizens also provides information on programs for those with disabilities, monthly fares and instructions for obtaining updated ID cards. The MBTA's paratransit program, called <a href="mailto:The Ride">The Ride</a>, is available throughout greater Boston. Check out other programs and information for seniors and customers with disabilities at the Office for Transportation Access Services.

Meanwhile, here are <u>links to other regional transit systems</u> throughout Massachusetts, in case MBTA does not extend to your community.

# Michigan

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community.

• <u>MiSeniors.net</u> lets older people check out transportation options to access community services, health care providers and shopping. Transportation can be offered through any or all of the following modes of transport: demand-response, volunteer drivers or public transit systems. A demand-response transportation service is characterized by flexible routing and/or scheduling of small vehicles to provide door-to-door service on demand.

MiSeniors also allows you to search by location for a range of senior services, including public transportation agencies and other transit options.

Michigan's <u>Department of Transportation Public Transit Provider Directory</u> provides links to the state's 19 urban transit systems and nearly 60 nonurban transit systems. The directory provides profiles of each transit system, along with key facts, contact information and links to each system's website.

#### Minnesota

Start by finding an Area Agency on Aging office near you. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Also, Minnesota's Board on Aging offers a Senior LinkAge Line that allows residents age 60 and older to find local transportation options to get to and from appointments, shopping, grocery stores, senior centers or social events. Minnesota communities have different types of transportation services available. Some offer door-to-door (or escorted) transportation, some have fixed routes (such as buse), and some communities, particularly those in rural areas, offer volunteer driver programs. Call (800) 333-2433.

• Minnesota Department of Transportation has a listing of <u>public transit providers</u> <u>throughout the state</u>. Click on the appropriate county (using the drop-down menu) to connect to local public transit information.

Meanwhile, visit <u>metrotransit.org</u>, Minnesota's largest transit system, and <u>Duluth Transit Authority</u>.

# Mississippi

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. For more information about human services-related transportation resources, call the state Department of Human Services' Division of Aging and Adult Services at (800) 948-3090.

To find a public transit system in your area, <u>click here</u>. Only a few of the local transit systems have websites. One of the state's largest transit systems, Coast Transit Authority in Harris County, has a <u>program for seniors</u>.

#### Missouri

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. Click on your county to find contact information for the AAA in your area. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. You can track down a wide variety of transportation services—from public transportation to volunteer transportation resources to nonemergency medical transit—on the <u>Missouri Aging Information Network</u>.

Missouri Department of Transportation offers a <u>directory of transit options for rural residents</u>, and advises those in nonrural areas to visit one of the following links to find information about a transit system near you:

- Columbia Transit System
- Jefftran—Jefferson City Transit
- Kansas City Area Transportation Authority—The Metro
- OATS Public Transportation
- Springfield City Utilities Transportation Service
- Southeast Missouri Transportation Service (site under construction)
- St. Joseph Transit
- St. Louis Regional Transit: Bi-State Development Agency

If these systems don't cover your community, try the Missouri Public Transit Association's member link page.

#### Montana

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Some of the AAAs have websites that can be accessed from the State Department of Public Health and Human Services website.

To link to transit providers throughout Montana and to find out more about transportation options for older or disabled residents, go to the state Department of Transportation's <u>traveler information page</u>. For information about transit agencies serving older and disabled residents, call the department at (800) 714-7296. or e-mail <u>transitinfo@mt.gov</u>.

#### Nebraska

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Meanwhile, <u>Answers4Families</u> has a helpful source, an index to Eldercare <u>transportation by city</u>.

Scout out transportation options—from buses to taxis to rural transportation options in your community—with the Nebraska Department of Roads' Transit Directory.

- Lincoln's public transit system StarTran has links of interest for seniors and the disabled.
- Omaha's Metro Area Transit system can be accessed <u>here</u>.

#### Nevada

<u>Nevada Care Connection</u> offers a <u>searchable database</u> for seniors and caregivers that will pair them up with local transportation and other services in their community. For more information call the state Division of Aging Services contractor, Continuum, at (775) 829-4700.

- Senior Ride Program in Clark County provides discounted taxicab fares to seniors and persons with disabilities through coupon booklets that are accepted by all taxicab companies in Clark County. Clients can cut the cost of cab fares in half. (Las Vegas)
- Washoe Senior Ride, a similar program in Reno, is also available to seniors and the disabled.

Here's a list of some of the state's largest transit systems:

- Lake Tahoe: Lake Tahoe Transit
- Las Vegas: Citizens Area Transit (CAT)
- Reno: Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County

## **New Hampshire**

To find out about public transportation options in your community, visit the <u>New Hampshire</u> Transit Association's provider directory.

Want to know more about a particular transit provider? Need a bus schedule, route map or ticket info? You'll find contact information as well as links to Internet websites for most of the state's

transportation providers. The <u>New Hampshire Department of Transportation Directory</u> connects you to public transit providers, some private carriers and other providers. New Hampshire residents can call (800) 462-8707 for more information. The state is also working on a comprehensive <u>ride-sharing program</u>.

# **New Jersey**

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Or call (877) 222-3737 to access NJ Ease, a toll-free service that connects seniors with local service providers.

An excellent resource available through the state Department of Health and Senior Services is the <u>CaregiverNJ tool</u>. Seniors and caregivers can click on Community Resources, select their county from the drop-down list, check the services, including transportation, they are interested in and hit Start Search to find providers in their area. Or click on Resources and Services, then click on Transportation to find a wide range of transportation options, from reduced-fare programs to transportation assistance programs. Another good resource is the <u>New Jersey Council on Special Transportation</u>.

Also, New Jersey Transit offers a <u>Trip Planner</u> and information on <u>accessible transportation</u> services. Here are links to some of the state's largest transit systems:

- New York and Newark: <u>Academy Lines</u>, <u>DeCamp Bus Lines</u>, <u>Hudson Transit Lines</u>, <u>Lafayette-Greenville IBOA New Jersey Transit</u>, <u>Newark ONE Bus PATH</u>, <u>Rockland Coaches</u>, South Orange Ave. <u>IBOA Suburban Transit</u> and <u>Trans Hudson Express</u>
- Philadelphia: <u>PATCO</u> and <u>SEPTA</u>

#### New Mexico

Start by finding an Area Agency on Aging office near you. Scroll down to the listing of Area Agency on Aging, and click on your county or Native American link. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community.

New Mexico's Department of Transportation offers links and contact information to a host of transportation providers in the state, including these:

- Rural Transit Providers
- Urban Transit Providers

- <u>Specialized Transportation Programs</u>
- Job Access/Reverse Commute Providers

#### **New York**

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. You'll see an interactive map of New York State. Click on your county or Native American link. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community.

• The New York State Transportation Federation offers a <u>Travel Information Gateway</u> to New York. Select a region on the state map you are interested in and select a transportation icon at the bottom of the screen to see a list of transportation providers, contact information and links to the respective sites. Visitors can also visit <u>transit and bus providers</u> in their community. Click on Transit Providers under the map. Intercity and private bus lines, taxis and ferry services are also accessible. Information and links to local paratransit and <u>Dial-a-Bus services</u> are easily accessible on the site. There are also links to <u>rail providers</u> and other transit modes.

The New York City Department of Transportation's <u>Web page of city transit providers</u> can link you directly with a host of NYC providers.

#### North Carolina

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging office near you</u>. You'll see an interactive map of North Carolina. Click on your county to find the local Area Agency on Aging, which can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community.

- North Carolina Division of Aging and Adult Services has a county-by-county list of general transportation options along with contact information. The division provides a similar list for medical transportation to help seniors get to medical appointments and nutrition sites or other services and activities necessary for daily living.
- More than 100 urban and rural public transportation systems serve millions of North Carolinians in the state's 100 counties. To quickly access the system in your county, visit <a href="TransitNet">TransitNet</a>, sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

To quickly link to some of the state's larger public transit systems, visit the <u>North Carolina</u> Public Transportation Association's provider links page.

#### North Dakota

To tap into the aging services network in North Dakota, contact the state Department of Human Services' <u>Adults and Aging Services</u>, (800) 451-8693. The department's <u>Senior Info Line</u> tool allows users to search for a wide variety of human services, including transportation options, on a county or services basis. For an alphabetical list of transportation services for older adults in the state, <u>visit here</u>.

• The <u>Dakota Transit Association</u> provides contact information for its members, largely local transit systems and human and aging service providers. Meanwhile, here are quick links to the state's largest transit systems, <u>Fargo Metro Area Transit Bus system</u>, and <u>Grand Forks City Bus</u>.

#### Ohio

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging or county office on aging near you</u>. You'll see an interactive map of Ohio. Click on your county to find the local Area Agency on Aging, which can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Or call toll-free (866) 243-5678. Some Ohio counties also have their own county office on aging.

- <u>ConnectMeOhio.org</u> is an accessible website for Ohio consumers, caregivers and providers who are looking for up-to-date information about programs and services for people with disabilities, no matter how old they are or where they live. It is also a site for providers to list the services they offer.
- The Ohio Department of Transportation's <u>Office of Transit</u> offers an <u>interactive map of Ohio</u> allowing users to quickly find local transit options in their community. You can also quickly access a list of all of the state rural or urban transit providers from the map.
- The Ohio Public Transit Association provides <u>links</u> to its members, most of the state's public transit systems.

#### Oklahoma

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging or county office on aging near you</u>. The link above takes you to an interactive map of Oklahoma. Click on your county to find the local Area

Agency on Aging, which can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Or call the Senior Info-Line (800) 211-2116.

The state Department of Human Services' Aging Services Division offers community <u>service</u> <u>providers and transportation resources in the state</u>. For more information, call (800) 498-7995 or (405) 521-4214.

Oklahoma Department of Transportation does not have a list of local transit providers on its website. Click these links to access the state's two largest transit systems:

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•	Tulsa:	Metropolitan	Tulsa	Transit A	Authority

# Oregon

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging or County Office on Aging near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Or call (800) 282-8096. Also, <u>Network of Care</u> is a great resource for seniors and disabled persons in Oregon to find a host of community resources.

Oregon's Department of Transportation sponsors <u>Shifting Gears in Later Years</u>. The site
has good information on <u>alternatives to driving</u>. The department's Public Transit Division
offers an interactive <u>service provider directory</u>. Click on your county and you'll find a
listing of public, private and special-needs transit options. The DOT also has a <u>Trip</u>
Check, which provides links to all local transit (bus and rail) options in the state.

# Pennsylvania

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging or county office on aging near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community.

- Pennsylvania's <u>Free Transit Program</u> provides seniors with free transit service on local established bus routes, trolley and rapid-transit lines during off-peak hours on weekdays and all day on Saturday, Sunday and certain holidays. To find out more about transportation options for older residents, visit the state <u>Department of Aging</u>.
- The state Department of Transportation has an excellent interactive <u>public transportation</u> <u>provider directory</u>. Click on your county to find and link to a variety of transportation options—from fixed-route bus service to on-demand programs and intercity options in

your community. The electronic provider directory is one of the friendliest in the nation to seniors and the disabled, flagging whether each service provider offers free or discount senior fares, paratransit and other options.

• The <u>Pennsylvania Public Transportation Association</u> links to dozens of local public transit systems in the state.

#### **Rhode Island**

For a listing of Elder Information Specialists in your community, <u>visit here</u> or call (401) 462-4000. <u>The POINT</u>, Rhode Island's Resource Place for Seniors and Adults, provides information, referrals and help getting started with programs and services for seniors, adults with disabilities and their caregivers. Call the POINT at (401) 462 4444.

- The RIde program provides transportation services to those 60 and older, and handicapped persons under 60 who meet certain criteria. Transportation is generally available weekdays for doctors' appointments, therapy, medical tests, senior day care, kidney dialysis, cancer treatments and meal site lunches. Call RIde approximately three to four weeks prior to appointments at (401) 461-9760 or (800) 479-6902. The link also provides phone numbers for communities that offer additional transportation services.
- Rhode Islanders with disabilities of all ages may be eligible for paratransit services from the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority's (RIPTA) curb-to-curb service. This service is provided along existing RIPTA service corridors at a cost of twice the standard bus rate for all riders. Apply by calling (401) 784-9553.
- The state Department of Transportation's <u>links page</u> provides quick access to public transportation providers in Rhode Island. Meanwhile, the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority's Pass Program: <u>Seniors & People with Disabilities</u> offers free and discounted fares.

# **South Carolina**

To find an Area Agency on Aging (AAA) office, click on the one nearest you:

- Rock Hill: Catawba AAA
- Columbia: Central Midlands Council of Governments
- Aiken: Lower Savannah Council of Governments
- **Greenville:** South Carolina Appalachian Council of Governments
- Hartsville: Vantage Point-Division of CareSouth, Inc.

Need to find transportation and other resources in your community? Try <u>SC Access</u>, a guide to available resources for older adults, people with disabilities, their family members and caregivers. Click on your county and a service you need, such as local community transportation, and you'll get a listing of providers and contacts. Or use this link to locate the phone number of a <u>regional information specialist in your area</u>.

The state Department of Transportation list of the state's 22 <u>mass transit providers</u> is a PDF list with contact information. The Transportation Association of South Carolina <u>links</u> to most of those urban and rural public transit providers. Interested in commuter-focused Ride-Share info? Visit here.

#### **South Dakota**

South Dakota Adult Services and Aging promotes resources that enable disabled adults and older South Dakotans to live independently. The agency hosts a transportation section on its website that provides information, contacts and links to general, human services and medical-related transportation services.

South Dakota's Office of Public Transportation provides a <u>directory of transit providers</u>. The directory list several dozen public and specialized transit service providers, and links to hours and service areas for each provider.

Meanwhile, click on the following links to access some of the larger transit systems in the state:

- Aberdeen Ride Lines
- City of Deadwood Trolley System
- Inter Lakes Community Action (ICAP)
- Palace Transit
- Rapid Transit System
- Regional RTAP Library
- Sioux Falls Transit
- Siouxland Regional Transit System (SRTS)
- Winner (ROCS) Transit

#### Tennessee

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging or county office on aging near you</u>. You'll see an interactive map of Tennessee. Click on your county to find the local Area Agency on Aging,

which can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Or call toll-free (866) 836-6678. The Department of Transportation has a directory of <u>urban systems and rural transit agencies</u>. The resource provides service area information and contacts but does not include links to the providers. Visit <u>Tennessee Transit Links</u> for additional public transit information

#### **Texas**

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging or county office on aging near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Or call (800) 252-9240. Texas also has <u>Area Information Centers</u>, agencies selected by their communities and designated by the Texas Information and Referral Network to provide information about health and human services in their respective regions.

- The Texas Department on Aging and Disability Services has a <u>transportation section</u> on its website that highlights the issue of transportation for older residents and some of the efforts the department is working on in this area.
- The Texas Transit Association offers visitors an interactive directory of <u>Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Authorities</u>, <u>Rural Transit Districts</u> and <u>Urban Transit Systems</u>.

A variety of information on public transportation options is available at the <u>Department of Transportation</u>. Also, Texas Medicaid recipients can request nonemergency medical transportation services through the <u>Texas Department of Transportation</u>. Users must call the toll-free number (877) MED-TRIP or (877) 633-8747 in advance to access services.

#### Utah

Start by finding an Area Agency on Aging or county office on aging near you. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Meanwhile, the state offers a <u>Seniors.Utah.gov website</u> that links seniors with a wide variety of services, including transportation resources.

- The <u>Utah Urban and Rural Specialized Transportation Association</u> has a provider directory of local transportation providers. The directory, which includes transit systems and human and senior service providers, contains contact information but not links. The association does link to several transit systems in the state on its links page.
- Utah Transit Authority, the state's largest transit provider, has a <u>Seniors On the Go</u> page, highlighting reduced fares and transit benefits.

#### Vermont

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging or county office on aging near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Or call the Senior Health Line at (800) 642-5119. Meanwhile, the state Division on Disability and Aging Services offers an <u>"Essential Trips"</u> resource, linking visitors to local human and community transportation resources.

- Vermont Agency on Transportation offers a <u>Web directory</u> of public transit providers in the state. It lists and links to public and commercial bus providers, as well as rail, ferry and commuter RideShare resources.
- In addition, the Vermont Public Transportation Association offers a good, albeit outdated, directory for transportation services in <u>Orange and Windsor counties</u>. Find out more about the <u>public transportation services</u>, including medical and other specialty resources, available in Vermont.

# Virginia

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging or county office on aging near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Or contact the Virginia Department for the Aging at (800) 552-3402.

- <u>SeniorNavigator.com</u> can link you quickly to a range of community-based services, including transportation assistance, in your home town. Type in the type of service you are looking for, along with your county or city. After hitting the Search Now button, you'll find a comprehensive list of resources. Seniors without access to computers can call SeniorNavigator's toll-free number, (866) 393-0957, to find services in their home town.
- The Community Transportation Association of Virginia links to the <u>state's transit</u> <u>agencies</u>. Meanwhile, the Virginia Department of Rails and Transportation offers a handy database of <u>public transportation providers</u> throughout the state. Click on your area on the interactive map to find a host of transportation links. The site also links to rail and commuter assistance resources.

# Washington

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging or county office on aging, near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community.

• The <u>Washington State Transit Association</u> provides visitors with links to local transit systems throughout the state. The <u>Washington State Department of Transportation</u> provides a directory of accessible transportation, offering links and contact information to a wide range of transit providers, including public, rail, ferry and rental services.

Meanwhile, the elderly, disabled and other Washington residents can learn more about a range of services available—from medical to paratransit transportation—from the <u>Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation</u>.

# West Virginia

Start by finding an <u>Area Agency on Aging or county office on aging near you</u>. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Or contact the West Virginia Bureau for Senior Services at (304) 558-3317.

- <u>The West Virginia Department of Transportation</u> offers a handy Public Transit Systems & Services Directory. West Virginia's transit operators provide a comprehensive range of services for residents. Some of those services include transportation from rural areas to towns, as well as commuter transportation in larger cities.
- The department also offers the 2004 <u>Transportation Providers Directory</u>. The PDF document includes profiles of public transit systems, specialized transportation providers such as county aging programs, sheltered workshops, community mental health centers, and taxi companies that operate in each county. It provides a description of the transportation service, the service area, days and hours of operation, and the number of vehicles. The department also offers a <u>directory of rail services</u>.

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Start by finding an Area Agency on Aging or county office on aging near you. These local agencies can direct you to transportation and other pertinent services in your community. Wisconsin also has county and tribal aging offices that can answer questions about needs, services and opportunities for older persons in their communities. Transportation services can be arranged through the local aging offices to get you to medical appointments, banks, other appointments and social activities; or help you go grocery shopping or attend meal programs. Specialized transportation may be arranged for those using wheelchairs. Some ride services are provided by volunteers. Reservations are required and some charges may apply.

Wisconsin's Department of Transportation hosts a <u>Travel Information page</u>. The resource list is limited for public transit options, but it does provide links to commercial transit options in the state. The department lists <u>specialized transit providers</u> that cater to elderly and disabled individuals.

Also, check out the	American Public	<b>Transportation</b>	Association's	Wisconsin	page to	find
information on local	bublic transit or	tions in the stat	e.			

# Wyoming

Start by finding an Area Agency on Aging or county office on aging near you. The link brings you to Older American Act service providers in each county in Wyoming. Or call the Department of Health's Aging Division at (800) 442-2766, or Tim Ernst at (307) 777-6102. Senior Pathways is a great resource to get you connected quickly with a host of service providers, including transportation providers, in your local community. Click on the map to get a list of services in your county, or narrow the results using the drop-down boxes on the right.

• Wyoming Public Transit Association has a handy resource Public Transit Provider Directory. To find a transit provider, enter a city, county or transit provider name in the search form, or simply click the county or city on the map provided.

#### **Additional Related Links**

Ticket to Ride (April 2006)

Katherine Freund: Reinventing Life After Driving (April 2006)

Coping With High Gas Prices (October 2005)

When to Stop Driving (AARP.org)